

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1058

Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth

February 18, 2011

An act to amend Section 13971 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1058, as introduced, Smyth. Clean Water Bond Law of 1970.

Existing law, the Clean Water Bond Law of 1970, a bond act approved by the voters at the November 3, 1970, statewide general election, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$250,000,000, to be used for grants and contracts for specified plans, surveys, research, development, and studies, and water quality projects. The bond act includes legislative findings and declarations relative to water quality.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those legislative findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 13971 of the Water Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 13971. The Legislature hereby finds and declares ~~that clean~~
- 4 *all of the following:*
- 5 (a) *Clean* water, which fosters the health of the people, the
- 6 beauty of their environment, the expansion of industry and
- 7 agriculture, the enhancement of fish and wildlife, the improvement

1 of recreational facilities, and the provision of pure drinking water
2 at a reasonable cost, is an essential public need. ~~Although~~

3 (b) ~~Although~~ the State of California is endowed with abundant
4 lakes and ponds, streams and rivers, and hundreds of miles of
5 shoreline, as well as large quantities of underground water, these
6 vast water resources are threatened by pollution, which, if not
7 checked, will impede the state's economic, community, and social
8 growth. ~~The~~

9 (c) ~~The~~ chief cause of pollution is the discharge of inadequately
10 treated waste into the waters of the state. Many public agencies
11 have not met the demands for adequate waste treatment or the
12 control of water pollution because of inadequate financial resources
13 and ~~on the other~~ responsibilities. ~~Increasing~~

14 (d) ~~Increasing~~ population accompanied by accelerating
15 urbanization, growing demands for water of high quality, rising
16 costs of construction, and technological changes mean that, unless
17 the state acts now, the needs may soar beyond the means available
18 for public finance. Meeting these needs is a proper purpose of the
19 federal, state and local governments. ~~Local~~

20 (e) ~~Local~~ agencies, by reason of their closeness to the problem,
21 should continue to have primary responsibility for construction,
22 operation, and maintenance of the facilities necessary to cleanse
23 our waters. ~~Since~~

24 (f) ~~Since~~ water pollution knows no political boundaries and
25 since the cost of eliminating the existing backlog of needed
26 facilities and of providing additional facilities for future needs will
27 be beyond the ability of local agencies to pay, the state, to meet
28 its responsibility to protect and promote the health, safety, and
29 welfare of the inhabitants of the state, should assist in the financing.
30 The federal government is contributing to the cost of control of
31 water pollution, and just provision should be made to cooperate
32 with the United States of America. ~~It~~

33 (g) ~~It~~ is the intent of this chapter to provide necessary funds to
34 ~~insure~~ ensure the full participation by the state under the provisions
35 of Section 8 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
36 466 et seq.) (1970)) and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary
37 thereto.